(xvi) A separate Department of Rural Labour at the Centre and in the State with an independent Directorate or Rural Labour in the States to deal with all aspects of Rural Labour.

3. The recommendations relating to a Central legislation for Agricultural Workers, a Central Legislation for Construction Workers, social security and constitution of a Commission on Bonded Labour have been referred to a Committee of State Labour Ministers headed by Labour Minister of Maharashtra for consideration and early report to the Government.

4. All Ministries/Departments concerned with specific recommendations have duly examined the recommendations. Implementation of these recommendations in consultation with the State Govts. Wherever necessary, is a continuing process. A Report on the action taken by various Ministries was laid on the Table of the House in its winter session of 1992 in fulfilment of Assurance given during Short Duration Discussion on the condition of Rural Labour in the Country on 4-8-1992.

Rise in Unemployment Amongst Educated Youth

1807. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in "The Hindustan Times" dated the 24th July, 1993 captioned "9 million educated to be jobless by 1977";

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating observations made in the study report by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR) recently;

(c) whether there was a backlog of 7 million educated unemployed in April, 1992 as observed by Dr. T.S. Papola, Adviser to the Planning Commission on Labour, Employment and Manpower recently; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take or have taken so far to check the growing unemployment amongst educated youth of the country by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to a study by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research entitled "Status Paper on Educated Unemployment in India (December 1992)", the number of educated unemployed persons would be 8.72 million in 1997. This figure has been arrived on the basis of (i) an estimated backlog of educated unemployed of 6 million in 1992; (ii) addition to educated labour force of 16.10 million during 1992-97; and (iii) estimated additional requirements of educated persons of 13.38 million during 1992-97.

(c) and (d) According to estimates by the Planning Commission, the backlog of open unemployment in the beginning of the Eighth Plan was 17 million, of which 7 million were estimated to be educated. Addition to educated labour force is estimated to be 17.5 million during 1992-97. The Eighth Plan envisages an employment-oriented strategy of growth with the goal of achieving near full employment by 2002 AD. The Plan is expected to generate additional employment opportunities to the tune of 43 million of which about 20 million are likely to be for the educated. The number of educated unemployed at the end of the Eighth Plan, on this basis, is likely to be around 4 to 5 million.

Ramanujam Committee's Recommendations On New Industrial Relations Law

1808. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stage of discussion/implementation of the Ramanujam Committee's recommendations on the new Industrial Relations Law, including amendments of the Trade Unions Act and the Industrial Disputes Act, particularly in the light of the Ramanujam Committee's Report; and

(b) whether the 41st Session of the State Labour Ministers' Conference, the 30th Session of the Indian Labour Conference and the 31st Session of the Standing Labour Committee discussed various aspects of the industrial and labour laws, particularly in the economic reforms, if so, with what results/outcome thereof after discussion on tripartite basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the decision taken in the Indian Labour Conference held in April, 1990, a Bipartite Committee comprising representatives of Employers' Organisations and Central Trade Union Organisations was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri G. Ramanujam in May, 1990 to formulate specific proposals for the New Industrial Relations Bill. The Committee submitted its report in October, 1990. Its recommendations were not unanimous. The report was considered in the Conference of State Labour Ministers in February, 1992, Standing Labour Committee in July 1992 and the Indian Labour Conference in September, 1992. The areas of disagreement in the report were also considered by a Committee of five State Labour Ministers. On the basis of these deliberations and also keeping in view the report of the Inter-Ministerial Group on Industrial Restructuring, specific proposals to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and the Trade Unions Act, 1926 have been formulated.

Recovery of Arrears under EPF and ESI

*1809. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

SHRI J.S. RAJU:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted recently any committee to study the problems of recovery of arrears of Employees Provident Fund and Employees State Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, who are the members and the terms of reference of the committee;

(c) by when the committee is expected to finalise its report;

(d) what is the total arrears of PF and ESI pending to be recovered in the country as on date and out of it, how much is recoverable along with the dates from which they are due;

(e) what is the number of liquidated establishment against whom PF dues are recoverable;

(f) in cases of ESI, how many liquidated establishments are there in the country;

(g) whether there is any proposal to revamp the ESI scheme and PF scheme to make them more action oriented; and

(h) if not, what steps are being taken to remove anomalies in these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The Government has constituted on 19-7-1993 a Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Labour under the Chairmanship of Shri Gurudas Das Gupta, M.P. The other members of the committee are S/Shri Gaya Prasad Kori, Ajoy Mukhopadhyay and K. Ramamurthy, M.Ps. The Sub-Committee will study the problems of the ESI and EPF dues and suggest suitable remedial measures for expediting their recovery. The Sub-Committee is expected to finalise its report by 18th September, 1993.

(d) As on 31-3-1993, total amount of arrears of the ESI Scheme was Rs. 178.6 crores. As on 31-3-1992, the total arrears of the EPF dues was Rs. 229.46 crores. The entire EPF and ESI dues are recoverable from the date when they fell due.

(e) 214.

(f) 250.

(g) and (h) The working of the ESI and the EPF Schemes is generally satisfactory. No serious anomaly in their working has come to the notice of the Government. However, in order to provide better services to the beneficiaries a massive computerisation programme has been launched.